

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.	:	Not assigned yet	Confirmation No. :
Applicant	:	Aeby et al	
Filed	:	Herewith	
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Examiner	:		
Docket No.	:	MAI-NITI	
Customer No.	:	23439	

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants herewith submit a Preliminary Amendment for U.S. national phase examination of enclosed application corresponding to PCT/IB2003/003135 (WO 2004/007812 A1). Applicants will submit the required declarations as soon as possible.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.